

Homecoming

Preview the Homecoming activities and events for next week.

Story on page 7

Inked Art

College students and Tyler artists reveal the stories and art behind tattoos.

Story on page 12



Passing Through

TJC Theatre presents Passing Through, Peter John Bailey's study of war-time love.

Story on page 11

Dental hygiene program benefits students, community

By Sidni Kirby
Staff Writer

SEALANT DAY

Students and dental hygienists will be seeing patients

Oct. 11	Free
Ages 6 to 14	Pirtle Technology
Starting 9 a.m.	Dental Hygienist Dept.

Poor dental health is a growing problem in the United States according to the American Dental Association. Dental Hygiene students are doing what they can to promote better dental care, and are also providing a great service for the community.

"Our students give 100 percent of themselves to this program," Carrie Hobbs, director of the Dental Hygiene program, said.

Despite the hard work, dedica-

tion, discipline and determination it takes to get into the program, they do not see a lack in applicants. On average there are "85 to 160 students who

apply every spring, with only 25 accepted," Hobbs said.

The Dental Hygienist program holds their students to "very high

standards," Andrea Morgan, a first year student in the program, said.

Both Amy Bing and Katie Murdock, who are first-year students in the program, say it's their whole life, and they can't have a job or see anyone.

The program teaches the students how to be "Licensed Dental Hygienist, how do to everything a Dental Hygienist does and also the theoretical area of it," Hobbs said.

The entire program is two years long, with a break for summer. First-year students are normally at school

for about 10 hours a week, participating in lecture and lab. The second-year students are there for 14 or more hours a week, mostly practicing clinical procedures.

"My favorite part of the program so far is X-rays," Morgan said.

All three girls agreed that the hardest part is "the book work and finding time."

For most students "the first semester and the third semester are the most difficult. The first because it is

— see DENTAL page 10 —

Students voice opinions about preparatory classes

By Madison Payne
Staff Writer

Some students that are assigned to college preparatory courses feel that they should be able to decide for themselves what to do with the test scores they received on their placement tests.

"I think it should be up to the students to decide, when it comes to remedial or college-level classes, because the students are paying for the classes. Students have a week or so of leeway to drop if they feel uncomfortable in the class," said Kelly Conine, a Tyler Junior College sophomore.

College preparatory classes are classes that teach students the basics of a certain area of study to better prepare them for that particular college-level course.

Students pay for the college prep courses that they are taking and do not receive college credit for those courses. College preparatory mathematics offers four different levels such as 0300, 0301, 0302, and 0303, therefore some students might have to take more than one semester of college prep. There are also courses in reading and writing. If students have to take more than one course, they have to take a study skills class also.

"I am not very good at math, so it was nice to have remedial; although, I am a fast learner so I might have done just as well in college-level," Conine said.

There are other options for students when it comes to being placed into college prep courses. Students can re-take the placement test and test out of that particular college prep course.

"I like that remedial courses are required. I think of it as a refresher course," Jennifer Wilson, instructor of college preparatory mathematics, said.

According to Wilson, students will be saving their money, and in the long run, saving the frustration of having to repeat a course over again.

"Students that are exempt from having to take college-prep courses have struggled in college algebra. They decided to go back to take the

— see PREPARATORY page 10 —



Photo by Daisy Valle

VOLUNTEERING Above, Habitat for Humanity volunteers work on the Arias family home on Sept. 20. The team was putting the finishing touches on the home, including landscaping during the workday. Right, Habitat for Humanity volunteers start to break up the land so that grass can be laid for the Arias front yard.



Building THE Future

By Daisy Valle
Staff Writer

Holding hands, they sit at a round table surrounded by their families and Habitat for Humanity volunteers. Several meetings, hard work and focused efforts have all lead to this moment. Sweaty palms, anxiety, maybe even a nervous stomach are what the families are experiencing.

This meeting is unlike any other. It's the final meeting that concludes with anticipation as it is announced that their efforts were not in vain. Their families will have something that in their lifetime they were not able to have up until now - a home.

"A lot of our families come into our program. No one in their entire family history has ever owned a home. Imagine that, and so for the first time they are changing their families' history," Hannah Walker, director of family services, said.

Habitat for Humanity is an organization that provides families that have a low-income with a home as well as tries to eliminate substandard housing. Although it may seem as if

— see HABITAT page 10 —

Apache Web Extras

WHAT'S UP WITH WALL STREET?

Dow tumbled nearly 800 points after the U.S. House denied the bailout.

NEW LEADERS

Israel is poised to make history with a second female Prime Minister.

TJCNEWSPAPER.COM

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Students, officials weigh options of guns on campus

By Sarah Goulden
Advertising Director

"I've been shot."

Those are the words that the father of one of the victims in the South Mountain Community College shooting heard when his daughter called him from her cell phone on July 2008.

The students and faculty at SMCC in Phoenix, Ariz. were startled by the gunshots that hospitalized three people.

Although the shooting spree occurred in a different time zone, Tyler Junior College students and staff still feel the impact close to home.

With about 8,000 students seeking certificates and associates degrees, SMCC is a school much like TJC.

However, a typical day of homework and classes rapidly

“ Our environment is academic. Students shouldn't have to worry about whether somebody has a gun or not. ”

— Randy Melton
TJC Director of Campus Safety

turned into students taking shelter under computer desks, hoping that the scenes from the Virginia Tech massacre in April 2007 weren't about to take place in front of them.

The shooting allegedly stemmed from a fight between the shooter and one of the victims, although the carrying or use of concealed weapons was not allowed on the campus.

It has only been three months since the shooting spree at SMCC. Since then, students and teachers in Texas have

weighed the pros and cons of whether they should be allowed to bring their concealed guns on campus for safety.

Even if students and teachers were allowed to bring their guns to campus, the idea of whether or not it would promote or deter more violence is still largely up for debate.

"Personally, I don't think that it's a good idea. I think that it will promote more violence among both authoritarian figures as well as students," said Gabriel Guevara, a sophomore

at TJC. "Plus, I don't think too many parents would rest easy knowing that their child's classmates and teachers are carrying firearms."

The term "concealed handgun" is misleading. Randy Melton, director of campus safety for TJC, said that even if someone is carrying a concealed handgun, it is still noticeable in most cases.

"Our environment is academic. Our students shouldn't have to worry whether somebody has a gun or not," Melton said. He went on to say that he couldn't see how allowing students or teachers to carry concealed handguns on campus would be beneficial to a college environment.

Melton believes that "anything can happen, at any time

— see GUNS page 3 —

[opinion]

The Apache Pow Wow
Friday, October 3, 2008

my view

Inattention could hurt us all



There is a major problem today. Our society is full of distractions. We are all guilty of them. Driving down the road and the phone beeps, I bet all of us reach down and grab the phone, but those reactions are having deadly consequences, comparable to those of drinking and driving.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, there were more than 42,000 people are killed and more than 3 million are injured in more than 6 million motor vehicle crashes each year due to distractions while driving – mostly from cell phone usage.

Compare that to statistics provided by Mothers Against Drunk Driving that reported an estimated 12,998 people died in alcohol-related wrecks in 2007.

In a 2005 nationwide survey, Texas reported that during a one-year span, 1,032 crashes were linked to cell phone use while driving.

Numerous cities have passed bills banning the use of a cell phone while driving, mostly in major metropolitan areas.

The state of California learned the dangers of texting while driving the hard way a few weeks ago.

That state just had its worst railway disaster in history because the conductor was reportedly sending text messages to teenagers. Twenty-five people were killed in the crash of the Los Angeles Metrolink train and another 130 were injured. Days after the Metrolink crash, California's legislature and Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger passed a ban on cell phone use while driving.

Numerous state senate bills have been introduced in Texas to try and ban cell phone use while driving, but none

have made it to the governor's desk. This is a problem we have to face ourselves.

Not only are we putting ourselves in danger by answering that phone or replying to a text message, but we are putting the other drivers in danger.

The other night I was amazed to see how distracted we get while on the road.

I was on Old Bullard Road this past weekend, and this driver in front of me was swerving back and forth from lane to lane, even driving into oncoming traffic for a while. I could clearly see that the person was trying to get something in the car – easily distracted while driving on one of Tyler's busiest streets.

I'm going to be honest – It is scary driving home at night and not only wondering if the person in front of you may or may not be too drunk to drive, but now we have to worry about something as little as cell phone.

We have to stop this. It needs to be an act just like putting on a seat belt. We just do not pick up that phone when we are driving.

Or one simple solution, pull over to the side and answer the phone, but by all means, save me and the rest of us from being victims from your inattention.



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OCTOBER 3

PAYMENT DUE on installment plan

MEN'S SOCCER vs. Marshalltown in Dallas, 7 p.m.

4

FOOTBALL at Blinn, 3 p.m.

WOMEN'S SOCCER vs. Navarro, 7 p.m.

5

MEN'S SOCCER vs. Springfield in Dallas

6

FINANCIAL AID CHECK RELEASE

LAST DAY to drop a course in Fall Mini-Term I

VOLLEYBALL at Panola, 6 p.m.

11

FOOTBALL vs. Kilgore (Homecoming), 3 p.m.

MEN'S SOCCER at Richland, 7 p.m.

WOMEN'S SOCCER vs. Richland, 7 p.m.

12

MEN'S SOCCER at Cedar Valley, 4 p.m.

13

FINANCIAL AID CHECK RELEASE

VOLLEYBALL vs. Blinn, 6 p.m.

14

MEN'S SOCCER at Hill, 5 p.m.

16

FALL MINI-TERM II REGISTRATION

FALL MINI-TERM I FINAL EXAMS

VOLLEYBALL at Paris, 6 p.m.

FREE CONCERT TJC Jazz Ensemble, Wise Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

[calendar]

Oct. 3 - Oct. 17

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CALENDAR ONLINE AT
TJCNEWSPAPER.COM

SUBMISSIONS WILL RUN BASED
ON SPACE AVAILABLE AND
TIMELINESS OF EVENT.

Nursing students volunteer time to help Ike evacuees

By Matt Loving
News Editor

With nursing homes and other health care facilities in the Beaumont area being evacuated, the residents took shelter in the Ornelas Health and Physical Education Center building.

Tyler Junior College's nursing students stepped in and filled the gap, providing over 3,034 hours of volunteer service to 246 elderly and specific care dependant evacuees. 2,230 hours came in an eight day span.

"Our salvation was our faculty being there all the time," Kay Devereux, Department chair of Vocational Nurse Education at TJC, said.

Some Students who had spent just two weeks in the nursing program were put in real-life situations and expected to perform essential tasks successfully.

"I had never done anything like that," nursing student Jennifer Lee said "I was scared."

Despite the bleak overtones of lost possessions and destroyed homes, the mood was reasonably upbeat.

Students provided care and tried to put a smile on as many faces as possible.

Anything from bingo to just listening to stories or history, or simply asking a few questions became part of the routine for the impromptu caregivers.

But laughter was not constant. Stress ran high at times and was a defining factor through the time the evacuees were here.

"You find out who is going to cuss you out after a while, but you just laugh it off because you understand," said Ashleigh Nichols, nursing student.

Fourteen residents were bed-ridden and

required extreme care and intensive monitoring.

"It touched our [students and faculty's] lives in a way that will last a lifetime," said Devereux.

Residents arrive in buses and ambulances, have their bags with them and they expect to be treated well.

Coping with the numbers and needs can be a difficult task. The fact is that unless you've done this before, there is no way to know what to expect.

Devereux said that the department is now very proficient in this process with the experience of Katrina, Ike and now Gustov.

"We're never saying it won't happen," said Ginger Christensen LVN Coordinator

Nobody understands this more than former TJC student and practicing RN, Mitch Notterville, who went through this experi-

ence in 2005 with Katrina as a student. Mitch pledged his time once again and aided in supervision of the nursing students, while lending his expertise as a medical professional.

Devereux and Christensen went on to say that they were proud of how well the students represented the town, campus and nursing program.

When it came time for the evacuees to leave, there was a mix of emotions.

"We really got to know them," said Nikki Greene, nursing student. "They didn't want you to leave."

Most of the students were a little relieved when it was time to get back to regular life. Classes were still going on, test needed taking and most students still had to go to work.

"I was nervous in the beginning, but now I've gained a lot of confidence in myself, and my abilities," said Lee.

GUNS

continued from page 1

can happen, at any time in today's society." For such cases, TJC has a highly trained campus safety team that is comprised of armed peace officers, and unarmed security guards.

The officers go through police academy training, which can last up to 21 weeks in the state of Texas.

Civilians can go through gun training in as little as one day.

"A teacher is not a cop," Melton said.

Therefore, Melton supports the idea that students and teachers should let the professionals deal with safety and security.

Keturah Lewis, sophomore student at TJC, said she believes that the immaturity of some people would hinder their judgment about when to use a gun.

Lewis said the reason we have security on campus is because they are the trained officials, they know what to do if someone brings out a gun during class.

"I wouldn't bring a gun to campus, even if I was trained to use a gun," Lewis said.

Lewis said it would cause chaos if every student or teacher with a handgun li-

cense brought their firearm to school.

Guevara said he wouldn't feel safe knowing his classmate was carrying a gun at school.

"Who's to say he won't shoot me?" he said.

In months since the Virginia Tech massacre that left 33 dead, TJC has established a number of protective action steps in case of a crisis on campus.

The steps include the Apache Alerts, which are delivered via text messages to cell phones, the TJC immediate telephone notification system that uses phones as intercoms, and the loud speaker located by Ramey Hall.

Melton believes that they are given the opportunity to communicate in a variety of ways to reach as many students as possible because, after all, their mission is the safety and security of the students.

Although a number of schools have contemplated the idea of allowing teachers and students to bring a licensed concealed handgun to campus, TJC "respectfully disagrees" with the option to do so.

Melton believes when it comes to allowing something this major to occur on



Photo by Ted Richardson/Raleigh News & Observer/MCT

DEMONSTRATORS HONOR VICTIMS OF VIRGINIA TECH SHOOTING Sam Wells, Dean of Duke Chapel joined demonstrators to honor the anniversary of the Virginia Tech shooting and to protest gun proliferation in front of Duke Chapel on Wednesday, April 16, 2008, in Durham, NC.

campus, the cons outweigh the pros.

"Most police support a concealed handgun law, but we'd like to keep it status quo right now," Melton said.

campusSCENE

Police Academy Valedictorian

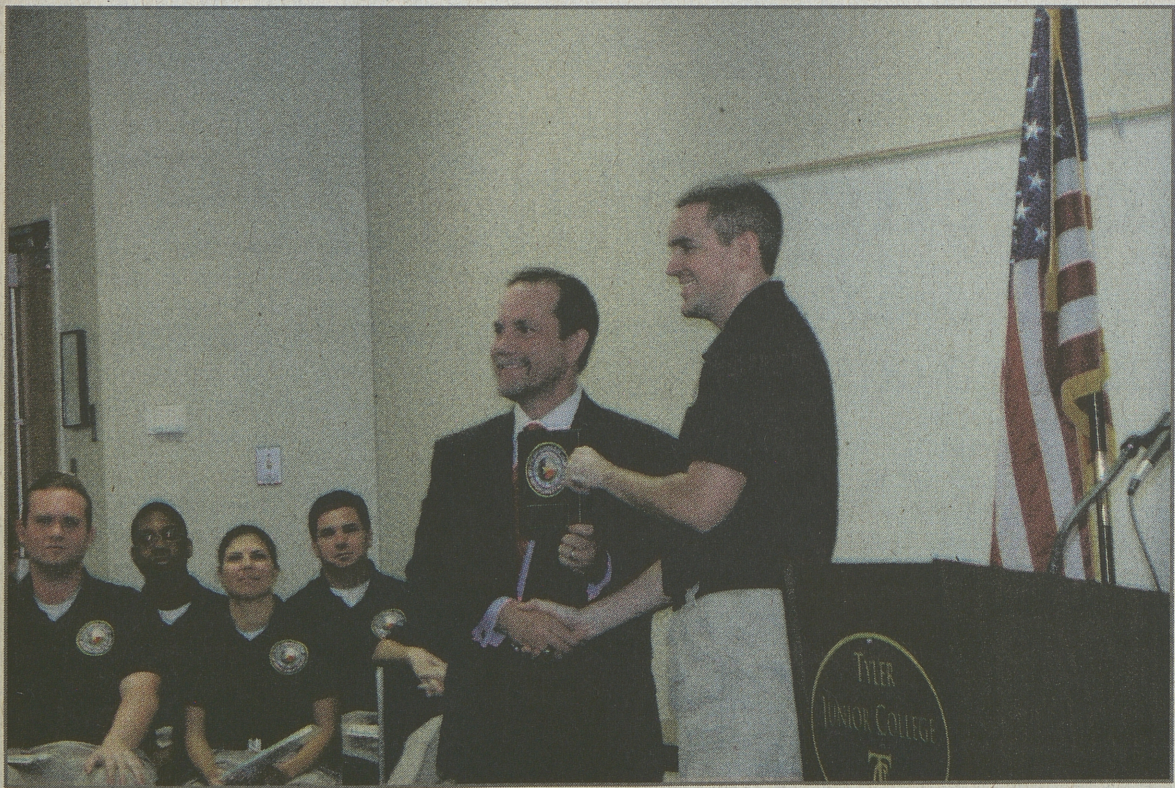


Photo by Sarah Goulden

12TH BASIC PEACE OFFICER CLASS Director of law enforcement academy Dr. Thomas Johnson gives out a plaque to class valedictorian, David Sarnacki, in recognition of his achievement.

Students 'ChaCha' their way to answers

New service a cheating tool or student help?

PHILADELPHIA (MCT) -A new cell-phone service that promises to give free answers to virtually any question within minutes has some academics worried that it will be yet another device to help students cheat.

The Indianapolis-based ChaCha began its free service in January, and business has since mushroomed to 300,000 inquiries a day.

Its 25,000 research guides respond via text message to questions on just about anything: the square root of 323 or the plot of "The Great Gatsby," Barack Obama's position on education or directions to the nearest pizza shop.

University of Delaware faculty learned of it recently when a professor heard about it from his college-age son and sent an alert to all of his colleagues. Other schools found out about it through questions from the Philadelphia Inquirer.

"Now that we're aware ChaCha exists, I can assure you that

we will begin discussion of a formal policy to prohibit cell-phone use in classes," said Gerard O'Sullivan, vice president for academic affairs at Neumann College in Delaware County, Pa. He said most professors already prohibited cell-phone use in class.

But other schools, including Temple, Drexel and Rowan, say they count on cell phones to send alerts to students in emergency situations - an outcome of the Virginia Tech killings - and would not want to ban them.

"We will be using cell phones in a new alert system we will be unveiling soon," said Drexel spokeswoman Niki Gianakaris.

O'Sullivan said Neumann might just ban students from "texting out" in class. "You could have students put phones on vibrate and still have them alerted," he said.

While ChaCha is the latest service to raise classroom integrity issues, academics are becoming increasingly concerned about "digital cheating" methods, including cell-phone use.

The Cherry Hill, N.J., Board of Education is reviewing proposed revisions to its cell-phone policy, partly driven by concerns about cheating and cyber-bullying but also recognizing

— see CHACHA page 5 —

News in Brief

PASSING THROUGH KICKS OFF 2008-09 THEATER SEASON

Theatre TJC opens its 2008-09 season with Peter John Bailey's World War II play, "Passing Through" on Wednesday, Oct. 8. The production runs Oct. 8-12 in Jean Browne Theatre, located Wise Cultural Arts Center on the TJC main campus.

FUNDRAISER PUT ON BY NURSES AND PHI THETA KAPPA

Student nurses have joined forces with Phi Theta Kappa to raise money to help fight cancer. The annual relay for life event hosted by the American Cancer Society will be held Friday night and Saturday morning at the Robert E. Lee Practice Field. Last year, TJC won a bronze award for fundraising.

HOMER M. HAYES TO TAKE OVER INTERIM PROVOST POSITION

Dr. Homer Hayes will begin his role as interim provost later this month.

Hayes is a graduate of Northern Illinois University and has worked at various colleges in Texas. Hayes also served in a variety of international roles in the peace corps.

Hayes is replacing Dr. Mark Escamilla who was recently named the president of Del Mar College in Corpus Christi. That announcement was made on the TJC campus last month.

Escamilla is from Corpus Christi and members of the presidential search process said that played a role in their selection.

Escamilla has served as provost since August 2006.

Program on campus is best kept secret

By Jasmine Smith
Student Life Editor

Even after 11 years, the TRiO department on campus is considered to be the best-kept secret. The program provides students with support services to help them maximize their potential as well as their success.

"This program is good for TJC because it helps young and older people to not be afraid of school because they are always here to help them and they won't be alone," sophomore, Jonathan Barlow said.

Touching lives, Reaching out, Increasing knowledge and Opening doors is exactly what the program is all about.

"We provide services for students to achieve their Bachelor's Degree, and we also do community service," Project Coordinator Renee Hawkins said.

The program is very competitive because it only accepts up to 200 students per year. The student must meet at least one of the requirements that the program is designed to fulfill.

For example, if the student is the first in their family to go to college or if the student has difficulty meeting expenses, even if the students needs guidance with school-related information, then the program might be exactly what they need.

"We are part of the most competitive grant program there is," said Hawkins. "You have to compete every four years against any college who wants to write a grant."

"The program is good for TJC because it helps young and older people to not be afraid of school because they are always here to help them and they won't be alone."

— Jonathan Barlow
Sophomore, TRiO Student Aid

"TRiO has helped me in many ways. It helped me become a people person, helped me by providing my books, and they have opened a lot of doors for different opportunities," Barlow said.

The main goals for students in the program are to stay in college, graduate from a two-year institution and/or graduate from a four-year university as well, and to create a campus community for students who are in need.

"The main reason I chose to work with this program over any other here is because I truly believe in a program that helps young people to become successful in their educational endeavors," TRiO Retention Officer Demetrius Hill said. "We cover everything from tutoring, mentoring, advising and anything else."

Student enrichment activities are also included in the program to promote a well-rounded student.

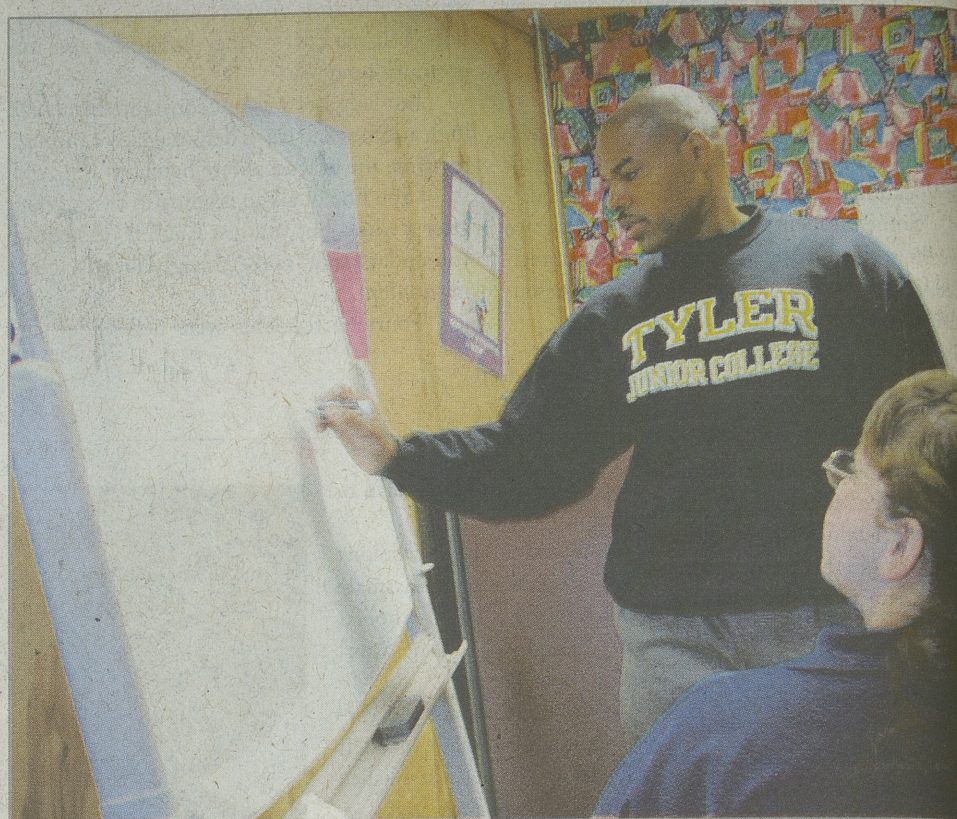


Photo by Jasmine Smith

THE MIND IS A TERRIBLE THING TO WASTE Mr. Demetrius Hill TRiO Retention Officer is seen tutoring a TRiO student on Sept. 30 inside the TRiO Support Services Center. Free tutoring is available on campus if needed.

"In addition, we offer training seminars that benefits students not just while they're here, but for life," Hill said. For more information, contact Renee

Hawkins TRiO Project Coordinator at (903) 510-2395. The TRiO center is located on the third floor of the Rogers Student Center.



Photo by Ryan Chriss

STOP, DROP AND ROLL If there is a crisis, emergency exit signs are located visibily around campus. If signs are ever out, students are encouraged to notify a campus official immediately.

In case of emergency

TJC has guidelines to follow and procedures in place to keep students safe during a crisis

By Satin Scott
Staff Writer

People who live in dorms, apartments, and even their own houses may not know what to do in case of emergencies.

Those residing in the dorms on Tyler Junior College campus have been affected by the hurricane season which is the reason TJC provides access to information about emergency procedures.

"We have hall meetings at the beginning of the year and at the end of the year telling students everything they need to know about living on campus - about what to do in case there is an emergency," said Mark Hurta, resident assistant of Holley Hall.

The TJC emergency procedures for students residing in the dorms are located in the Residential Life Handbook.

"They pass out [handbooks] at Orientation," said Nixon Marc, a resident of Holley Hall.

TJC has different procedures for different circumstances concerning each hall in case of a fire, tornado, or some other catastrophic event.

"In case of a fire, we go outside and wait until a firefighter tells you to go somewhere else or a director. Chemical spills, we call our supervisors and they notify the necessary people to take care of it. We can lock down the buildings [residential halls] in case someone has a gun. For tornado drills, we go inside the closet and shut the door or bathroom," said Hurta.

"There is a fire extinguisher in the laundry room," said Marc.

All drills must be in accordance with State Fire Codes and it is mandatory that all students and their guests participate. The drills must be repeated if the completion time does not meet safety standards.

If a student or staff member fails to comply during drills or actual emergencies then that individual will receive serious disciplinary action.

Melody Huff, area coordinator of Residential Life, said that disciplinary action is case by case situation.

Recently, Tyler endured extreme weather as a result of two hurricanes

Gustav and Ike.

Marc said the students at Holley Hall had a meeting concerning Ike. However, they did not have to put those procedures into practice when Ike came.

"Nothing happened except the lights went out for a short second in one part of the campus a few days after the hurricane [Ike]," said Hurta.

Hurta said that there will be a fire drill coming up soon for all residential halls.

Further information concerning Emergency Procedures inside the handbook is found on TJC's website and Residential Life office.

Alumni return to spread knowledge through teaching

By Sarah Malik
Staff Writer

Alumni of Tyler Junior College are all over the world living their lives, but we have three alumni who came back to TJC as teachers.

Some alumni have decided to come back and teach like Sharon Mowery, graduate of the class of 1986. She is a government teacher who started out as a science major.

"David Ligon is the one teacher who got me interested in government... it was the subject matter that got my attention," Mowery said.

The same can be said for Shannon Cross, graduate of the class of 1972, from the time of graduating, moving to Colorado and home schooling her kids, the teaching bug hit her.

"I was home schooling my kids and got interested in the content of history," Cross said.

It was the learning of different experiences and events in history that have happened that appealed to Cross saying it was like one big soap opera.

We even have some famous alumni at TJC.

Noamie Byrum is an English teacher at TJC who also happened to graduate in the class of 1966 and is credited with being one of three teachers to start online classes in 1995.

"Some of the students did not know how to work with computers, so sometimes I would go to their houses to help them learn and set up what they needed for the online classes," Byrum said.

This is the first semester since 1995 since online classes started that she is not teaching them. Instead, she is back in the classroom.

I wanted to have students who I saw and who I got to know," she said.

All three of these women went on to get their Master's Degree's from various colleges, but all found a home at TJC.

"TJC is a great place to work. I would rather stay here than go anywhere else and teach," Cross said.

These three teachers have one thing in common, besides coming back to TJC as teachers, they all love teaching the students. To them it is "very, very satisfying," Byrum said.

"It is a rewarding job to work with kids, to interact with them," Mowery said.

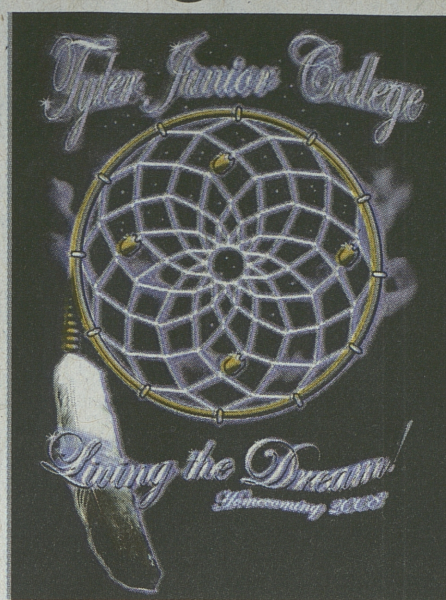


Need news?

Look for The Apache Pow Wow on campus every other Friday, and updates 24/7 online at tjcnewspaper.com

By Ryan Chriss
Online Editor

Students must have their school I.D. to get in.



The drum beat will conclude at kickoff when the Apache football team takes on their rival Kilgore College for the second time this year.

But a test of the service by Inquirer

Burns received between several responses from colleagues when he alerted them in an e-mail. Most were not aware of the service.

Distributed by MCT

our portal to the world of journalism

See Res Hall page 8

Joseph Z. ... open fall of ...

organizations offer
to students

as keeping students' stomachs from
growing in class.

"Students enjoy coming to an en-
vironment where they know they'll
be provided for. They come for good
food, good fellowship and good fun,"
said Gayle Robinson, volunteer coor-
dinator for the Wesley Center. "They
feel at home here."

All students are invited to the
free meals, not just those affili-
ated with the sponsoring churches.

Smaller crowds are smaller at the
of the semester, average
range from 60 to
offer variety

WHERE'S THE FREE FOOD?

ASSOCIATION OF
BAPTIST STUDENTS:
• Noon, 5 days
• Special holiday meals

Lake St.

Baxter St.

BAPTIST MINISTRIES:
• Noon, 5 days
• Pot

WESLEY CENTER:
• 8 a.m., Tuesdays
• 8 a.m., Thursdays

Fifth St.

FOOTBALL GAMES:
• Home
• Show

more information, email tjcnews@tjc.edu

Finding first-year coach proves challenging for TJC

By Matt Sneed
Staff Writer

Rose first to lead historic women's soccer team

Tyler Junior College has a Rose. Four players was all that new TJC head women's soccer coach had when he was hired in April 2008. The rest would fall into place.

The Lady Apaches had 21 women on their roster at the beginning of the season.

Men's soccer coach Steve Clements first met Corey Rose four years ago while the two were coaching a soccer camp together that was being held at Pat Hartley Field.

Clements had briefly discussed and mentioned the possibility of a women's team at TJC for a few years when Rose was first helping with

teaching the camps. When the opening came up in early 2008, Clements' first call was to Rose, who had been teaching at Belhaven College in Mississippi. Having taught the camps for a few years, Rose was familiar with the area and liked the idea of coming to Tyler.

"I loved the campus and the area of Tyler. I knew it would be a good fit," Rose said.

However he said leaving Belhaven College was not an easy task.

"It was hard leaving because I had my best recruiting class coming in," Rose said.

Rose's old team was off to a 5-0

start. The Apaches started off the year 2-1-1. The record at the start of the season doesn't often tell the whole story. Even with his best recruiting class coming in at Belhaven, Rose believes if the two teams were to play that TJC would win.

"It would be a close game, but in the end the Tyler team's depth would be too much to overcome," Rose said.

Getting the talent to TJC in four and a half months was difficult but Rose and his staff did what normal college coaches do — they network. Captain Ashley Wall is from Miami; she said she was referred to the school by one of the coaches.

Wall said that "[Assistant Coach Handy] was one of the first who mentioned TJC."

Rose knows that players like Wall are not common and it can be challenging to recruit them.

"You get lucky," Rose said. "Those types of players do not normally fall into your lap."

Rose was lucky in that aspect but he believes none of the team's success this year is due to luck. He attributes the wins to hard work and competitiveness.

Navarro College looks to be the toughest competition in reaching the National Tournament but Rose



Corey Rose, Women's Soccer Coach

believes if they are healthy they be there.

Former pro-football player tackles role as college coach

Williams enjoys teaching players about life and football on campus

By Michael George
Sports Editor

Tyler Junior College has recruited a lot of coaches to help the football team improve and win a national championship. But Head Coach Danny Palmer made a "pro" move by bringing in former professional football player, Coach Jermaine Williams.

He played pro-football for the Oakland Raiders, Kansas City Chiefs, Jacksonville Jaguars and Tampa Bay Buccaneers. He played college ball for the University of Houston. This will be his first experience coaching a team at TJC.

"It all started with Coach Palmer. He coached me in college at Houston. I always wanted to get into coaching, but I have a family and I really didn't have the time. I had opportunities but didn't have to push myself to get where I'm at today. But it's been all about Coach Palmer. If it wasn't for him, I wouldn't be here at TJC coaching."

Williams is looking to do his part for the team not only by coaching, but also making them better in life.

"Yea, I feel that he can help us



Jermaine Williams, Running Back Coach

because he knows what it takes to get better. What he learned from his experience he can teach us to get where we need to be. He teaches us not just football but also teaches us about life itself and that's what I like most about him," defensive back Chris Lomax said.

"For me, it's easy I always tell the guys the truth. I never ask them to do something that I have never done. I already repeated what I done, so for me it comes naturally. I know what it takes; I know my role to coaching these boys, and it just like start-

ing from the basics and its good all around."

The pressure of being an ex-pro-football player doesn't seem to bother the rookie coach at all. All Williams wants to do is his job and get this program where it needs to be.

"At first I thought I would have to do more to prove myself. But when I first got in the locker room, I felt like I'm one of the guys."

"So I don't have to be something I'm not, I don't have to prove a point cause all I want to do is win. I want to win in games, practice, and rela-

tionship with the players, with my studies and preparation so I can give them the right information to be successful. The most pressure that I feel on myself is not letting them down," Williams said.

Other players from the TJC football team feels that Coach Williams is a perfect fit for this football team and that he can bring more to the team besides teaching the game of football.

"Coach Williams is a great motivator and he really cares about us. He is a great mentor and I feel that

we can come to him about our problems we have outside the football field," wide receiver Rod Shepherd said.

Coach Williams loves coaching for TJC, and the players and coaching staff are glad to have him as part of the team.

"Being with all the other coaches and players, it's like a brotherhood."

"Me being an ex-pro player, I'm really apart of a brotherhood that's what matters to me the most and I'm excited to be here."



Photo courtesy of Charles S.

COACHING YOUNG MEN in both football and life is a goal of former professional football player Jermaine Williams. Williams played for numerous pro teams including the Oakland Raiders and Jacksonville Jaguars.



Photo by Michael George

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT TJC Men's Tennis player, John Devose, practices in the new tennis complex with the team on Sept. 30.

Apache Tennis looks for National Championship

By Luke Loggins
Staff Writer

Last fall Tyler Junior College Men's Tennis team acquired not only new players but also a whole new facility.

The JoAnn Medlock Murphy Tennis Center is not just number one in NJCAA (National Junior College Athletic Association) but it is also a top facility in NCAA (National College Athletic Association). Besides the fact that TJC has built a new tennis complex, the men's team has been a force to be reckoned with for quite some time.

In the past four years, men's tennis has come up short on winning the national championship by finishing second. Coach John Peterson has high expectations for his team and he wants

no more than to be back on top as they have been in years past.

"Win a National Championship and see each player improve over the season," he said. "I'm tired of coming up in second place it might as well be fifth or sixth."

Men's tennis has three returning starters from last year's top five players. Dominic McLuskey, who walked on last year, played as TJC's number one man and was awarded Rookie Player of the Year and All-American honors. J.J. Haley and Roman Petrunin both played on the starting five. They, too, were awarded All American honors. All three agree the new facility has had a positive impact.

There are several different ways to recruit players. Coach Peterson has stu-

dents all over Texas contact him because they have heard about how nice the new facility is and because TJC is one of the top junior colleges in the nation.

He also goes to tournaments around Texas and watches players that he has either heard about from former tennis player's at TJC or a fellow coach had told him about. Some people might wonder how TJC acquires foreign players. Most of the foreign players have shown enough people how well they play that their coaches contact Coach Peterson, he takes a look at video and tournament results and decides whether he would like them to come play.

Coach Peterson said his team is still waiting on that one leader who can help take the team back to the national championship.

Number one ranked team USC Trojans lose to OSU Beavers

By Blair Kerkhoff
McClatchy Newspaper

The Big 12, Southeastern Conference and Penn State could be the biggest winners from Southern California's stunning 27-21 loss to Oregon State on Thursday night. Penn State? The 12th-ranked Nittany Lions have looked formidable all year, including their 45-14 beatdown of the Beavers in the second week. By wrecking the team that trashed No. 1, Penn State might get some extra love in the polls, provided it defeats Illinois on Saturday.

But teams from the Big 12 and SEC are in a better position to take full advantage. Entering this week's games, teams from the two conferences held the next six positions and eight of the next nine after the Trojans in the USA Today coaches poll, which helps determine the Bowl Championship Series standings. They are all in a position to move up, and one winner can make a major move. Third-ranked Georgia plays host to 10th-ranked Alabama today.

Fifth-ranked Missouri and ninth-ranked Texas Tech could jump without playing. Nobody knows how far the Trojans will fall, but Ohio State could be an indicator. After the Buckeyes lost 35-3 at Southern California two weeks ago, they went from fifth

to 14th in the USA Today poll. Will USC be punished as severely? After all, the Trojans lost to an unranked team with a record entering the game. Second-ranked Oklahoma, which plays host to TCU, could go No. 1 with a victory, but so could Georgia, which isn't far behind.

The Bulldogs are breaking out black jerseys for additional motivation on Saturday. The results of the USA Today top 10: Florida, Missouri, LSU, Texas, Wisconsin, Texas Tech and Alabama.

Also, the Harris Poll, used to determine the final BCS standings, will be released for the first time Sunday. The first BCS standings won't be out until Oct. 19.

The teams ranked first through second in the final standings in the BCS national championship game. As for the Southern California loss, coach Pete Carroll said the inability to stop 5-foot-6 freshman running back Jacquizz Rodgers, who rushed for 186 yards, was a bitter disappointment.

"I am just beside myself," Carroll said. "They didn't know what they were doing... and we couldn't stop it. We couldn't stop him. We were missing tackles and not reading plays right."

Distributed by MCT

Golf team wins nationals, sets new low-scoring record

By Shane Smith
Photo Editor

The Tyler Junior College Golf Team arrived at Palm Valley Golf Course near Phoenix, Ariz. expecting great things.

"I knew we had a good chance. You just never know how the other teams are going to play and how your guys are going to respond," said TJC Golf Head Coach Sandy Terry.

By the first day of the tournament, the TJC men's golf team had accomplished something amazing. They had set a new low-scoring record for the NJCAA National tournament with a combined score of 275, breaking the past record also set by Tyler in 2003 of 277.

"We had an eight-shot lead so everybody was pretty comfortable with how we played and the way it all came together," said TJC sophomore Cody Blankenship. "We felt relaxed and felt like we could keep the lead for the rest of the tournament as long we just played solid and didn't make any huge mistakes."

However, right when everything seemed to be perfect, problems began to creep in.

"It rained three of the four days of the tournament. Two of which brought on rain delays," said Coach Terry.

The temperature also became a factor. The temperature had dropped from 105 degrees on the first day to 65 degrees and windy.

"We had to buy clothes," said Coach Terry with a grin. "It was so cold on the fourth day that you couldn't hardly write on the score card from your hands shaking so much."

With each day, the score became closer and closer. By the fourth and final day, the championship would be determined on the final hole of the last group of players to come in.

If Marc Rice could get up and down for par from a tough lie, they would be national champions. With a four-foot par put, Marc Rice had made it official that the Tyler Junior College men's golf team were the 2008 NJCAA National Champions.

"It was such a relief when we won. Just to know that we had kept the lead, and we

wanted to win it for coach so bad," said Blankenship.

"You're speechless, you just have this huge grin on your face and when they write down national champions across that huge scoreboard on the wall you finally know wow, all that work finally paid off," added sophomore Cody Bass.

Not only had they won the national tournament, they had set new standards for the tournament itself. The men received their national championship rings on Sept. 27 at TJC's home football game.

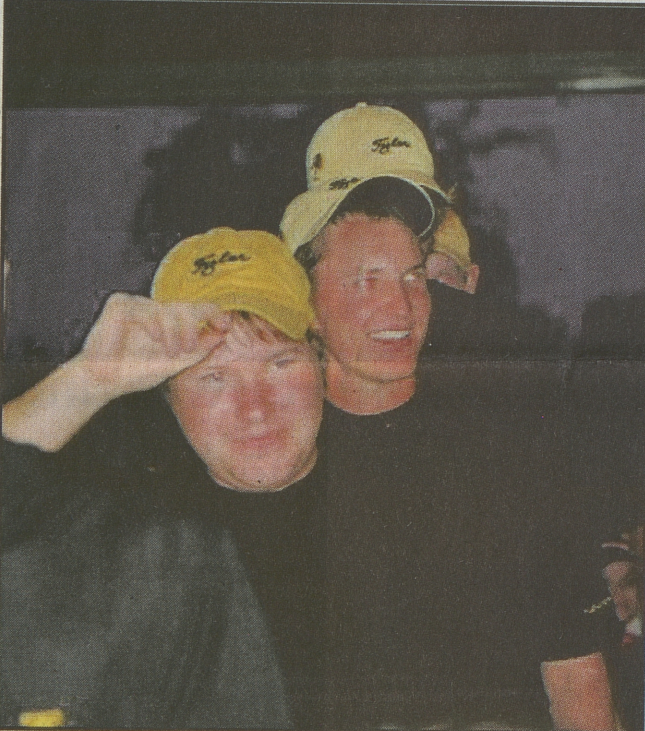
Though this marks TJC for having seven national golf titles, the 2008 National Championship will definitely stand out in not only the minds of the players, but with a thirteen under first round, it will re-write the history books as well.



Photos courtesy of Head Coach Sandy Terry and Golfer Cody Bass



CHAMPIONS This photo essay depicts the TJC golf team celebrating their nationals victory in Arizona. The team competed at Palm Valley Golf Course near Phoenix, Ariz. to become the 2008 NJCAA National Champions. Members of the golf team are Davis Poscente, NJCAA and Ping All American; Cody Blankenship, Ping All American; Marc Rice, NJCAA and Ping All American plus; Arnold Palmer, Award winner of the National Individual Title; Blaine Weiterman NJCAA All American; and Head Coach Sandy Terry.



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Men's basketball team looking for victory in the upcoming season

By Robyne Williams
Staff Writer

The start of the season means starting all over again with new players and new challenges.

The Robert Pack Classic is right around the corner and these young men are learning quickly how to adapt to a new season and team.

With the record of 25-2 and 19-2 Region XIV, they have a lot to do to retain their title back in conference.

"We lost five or six players, physically as a team we will be able to replace them this year," said Coach Mike Marquis.

For most incoming players it's hard to adjust to college basketball from high school.

"It's different. It's a much faster tempo, you have to be ready to take it another level," said Alan Branch, sophomore shooting guard.

While basketball is not the only issue they must obtain but academics as well.

"If you don't handle it there you can't do anywhere else," said Alan Branch.

Academics are a part of how the coaches decide on incoming freshman and the sophomores they keep on scholarship every season.

"Academic, citizenship and ability is what our program is noted nationally for," Coach Marquis.

With school beginning, so are the practices for the athletes.

With the starting season there are a lot of standards to uphold from last year's conference victory.

"We got another shot at conference and we got three or four returners back, we know what it takes to win," said Tyler Jefferson, sophomore power forward.

Dallas Super Blowout Scrimmage: Oct. 11.

Apaches vs. Cowley County Community College
Dallas, Wiley HS 9:30 a.m.

Apaches vs. Seward County Community College
Dallas, McMillan MS 11:30 a.m.

Hill College vs. Apaches
Dallas, Wiley HS 2:30 p.m.

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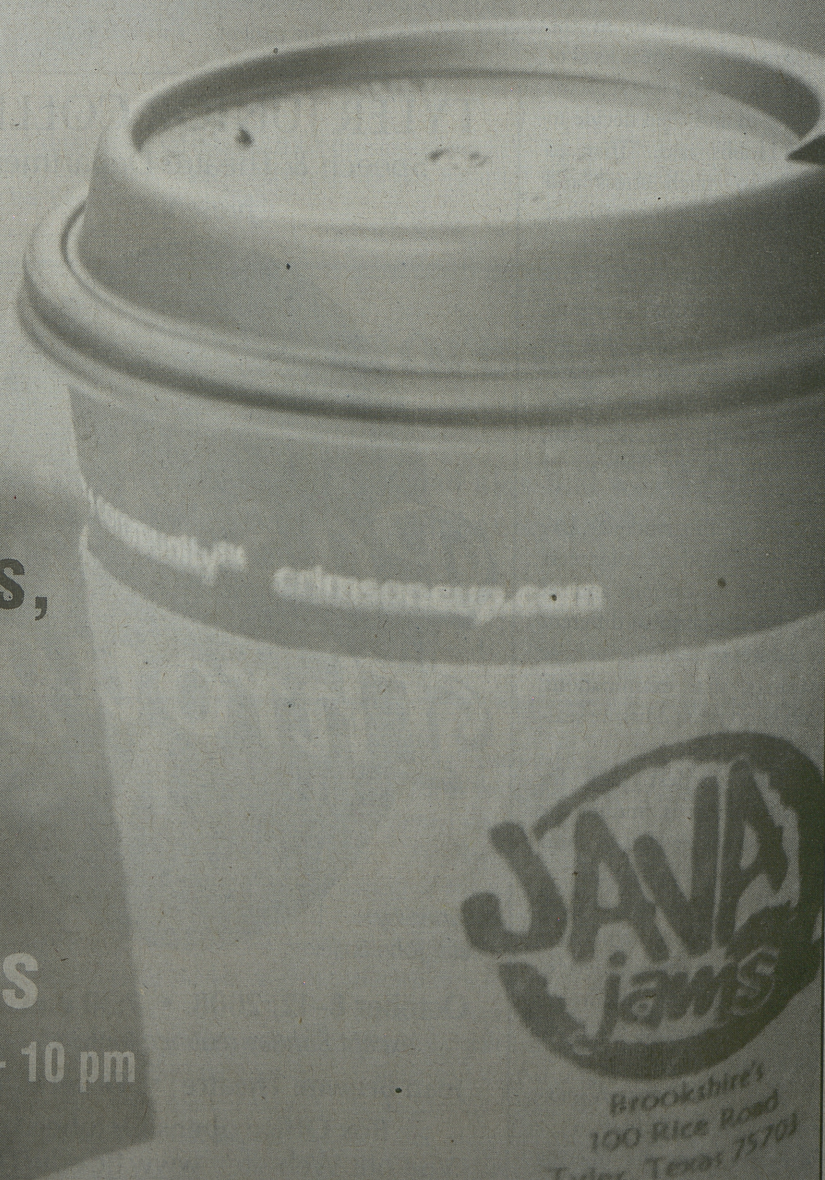
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[variety]

HABITAT

continued from page 1

poverty is something that only affects third-world countries, it is taking place right here.

"You think it's 2008, and people don't live like this, but they do. We had a homeowner who used to leave huge drums out in her yard so she could catch rain so that she could wash her clothes and flush her toilet. We had another homeowner who put her bathtub in her kitchen because that was the only place where she had running water. These are the people who live in Smith County," said Walker.

The families attend several meetings in which Habitat evaluates income and credit score. They follow up with a home visit, and if eligible, they are told they are going to be given a home.

The recipients are determined on three basic principles; their need, ability to pay, and willingness to partner. These homes have no down payment or interest. The only down payment is that they must put in at least 350 to 500 hours of volunteer work before they can even begin building their own home.

The recipients of these homes are not the only ones involved; volunteers are considered the backbone of Habitat. Some of the volunteers involved are part of an organization called the Women Build. The group was started by Habitat International and has been in Smith County for over 10 years.

"The primary focus of Women Build is to include women not to exclude men. It's about empowering women to step out of their normal functions and learn a new skill



Photo by Daisy Valle

TIME WELL SPENT David Arias hammers in the siding for his family's future garden. Another Habitat for Humanity home is being constructed on Angelina Street. The home will belong to Linsey Wall and her family. This Women Build project will commence on Oct. 4.

and then also uniting women in ending poverty housing," said Walker.

"It just changed my life," said Margo Ballew, a volunteer of Habitat for Humanity. "I had a neighbor who got me involved she said you need to come out and see the walls being raised. So I went out and watched the entire walls of a house go up in one day, the whole frame. It was unbelievable. The most exciting thing I had ever seen."

Many feel like they gain more than just sense of pride by working with Habitat.

"They see something tangible. That's one of the key things about Habitat. They walk away with something tangible. It's not just like you

gave away money and you hope that someday something good will come of it. You actually see what you did, and it's permanent. And you can go back to that house 20 years and what you worked on is still there," said Walker.

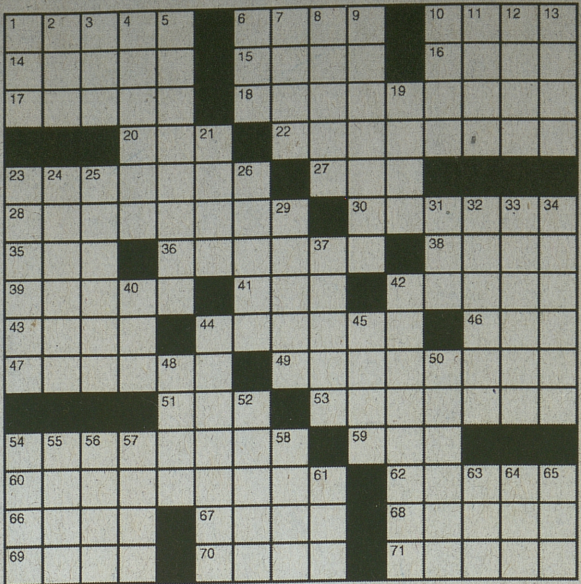
Many home recipients even feel empowered despite their current situation.

"I realized these people all want the same thing. They're doing this willing. Their hearts are in it, it is over whelming. God has love in all these people that have come out here. It's not just for show and tell," said Lindsey Wall, a recent chosen recipient for a new home.

The volunteers were laying down grass and painting

Crossword

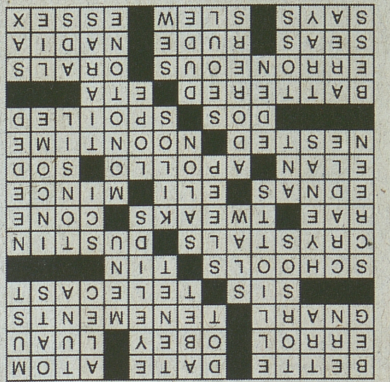
- ACROSS
1 Davis of "Dangerous"
6 Dinner and a movie, e.g.
10 Molecular building block
14 Flynn of "Captain Blood"
15 Toe the line
16 Maui feast
17 Tree knot
18 Urban buildings
20 Home girl
22 Air
23 Places of learning
27 Can in London
28 Glass objects
30 Actor Hoffman
35 Arctic explorer John
36 Minor adjustments
38 Traffic diverter
39 Ferber and Best
41 Lilly or Wallach
42 Chop into small pieces
43 Zest
44 "13"
46 Turf
47 Fitted together in a stack
49 Middy
51 Coifs
53 Ruined
54 Damaged by blows
59 LAX stat
60 Mistaken
62 Part of doctorals?
66 Salty septet
67 Antisocial
68 Gymnast Comaneci
69 Comments
70 Murdered
71 Cromwell's earldom
- DOWN
1 Ask for a handout
2 Sea eagle
3 Song syllable
4 Bodies
5 Denholm and Bob
6 E-mail symbol
7 Help in wrongdoing
8 Religious belief
9 Peeper covers
10 Eldest Baldwin
11 Sushi choice
12 Feed-bag feed
13 Requirement
19 Waiter's handout
21 Side order, briefly
23 Room divider
24 Infant's bed
25 Serengeti carnivores
26 Catch some Z's
29 Beauty parlor
31 Half of B.S.
32 Throat guardian
33 Tax figure
34 Was without
37 Metric weights
40 Aardvark's bite
42 Plainsong feature
44 Those who worship



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10/4/08

Solutions



- 45 Run leisurely
48 Biblical garden
50 Small coronets
52 Asian capital
54 Mrs. Truman
55 Domain
56 Busboy's tote
57 Prepare salad
58 City slicker
61 Stitch
63 Classifieds
64 Whopper
65 Jazzy instrument

the inside of the new home for the Arias family.

The Arias family consists of David, Mirna, Jennifer and Josh. Mirna was told by a boss about Habitat for Humanity.

"I believe this is a blessing because we have tried to get a home like three times, and then we just believe in people and trust people, but people aren't really honest with us," said Mirna Arias, a new recipient of a Habitat home. "I know we are in God's bliss."

Mrs. Arias also mentioned

that her family had received many bad deals but knows that God has a plan for her family. She trusts that Habitat will affect her family positively. Organizers said a Habitat home may have long-lasting effects for the recipients.

"Just a tendency for Habitat families once their families get into a Habitat home and have a stable living environment, their kids tend to move on and pursue college. That's a given, studied fact with any habitat families across the na-

tion and even in the world," said Walker.

The son and daughter of the Arias family felt as if school would become easier for them.

"I'd have to worry less about moving so much and helping my parents pay bills on the rent," said Josh Arias, 13.

Habitat for Humanity has already finished building the Arias' new home. The Women Build will continue with future homes including the Wall house on Oct. 4.

PREPARATORY

continued from page 1

college-prep courses have struggled in college algebra. They decided to go back to take the remedial course for a refresher course, and said they wished they started there from the beginning," Wilson said.

Some students actually do decide for themselves to follow through and take the remedial course instead of trying to test out. They feel that they would be more comfortable with

a remedial course before college-level.

"I was four points away from not having to take the remedial course, but I knew I had been out of school awhile. So I decided to go with the remedial class. I ended up making a 102 in the class, I do not regret taking remedial, I needed a refresher course," Victoria Jenkins, a TJC sophomore, said.

Students can always see counselors if they need information on college prep courses.

DENTAL

continued from page 1

overwhelming and the third (semester) because there is a lot of stress," Hobbs said.

Despite the standards, students are held to in the program and the stress level of it, they have "very few students who get in and then decide to quit," Hobbs said. "They go through so much stress and waiting to get in, most stick it out."

"I'm most looking forward to graduation... making the big bucks and picking my own schedule," Murdock said. Most dental hygienists made approximately \$30 an hour, according to the Bureau of Labor Statists.

All of the student's patients in clinical are volunteers who come to campus and let the students perform different procedures on them such as cleanings, oral examinations, X-rays and pit and fissure sealants.

"The hardest part for many students is finding the right patients needed to complete clinical," Hobbs said.

All students have to work on different types of patients with different difficulty levels.

"The difficult patients are always the hardest to find," Hobbs said.

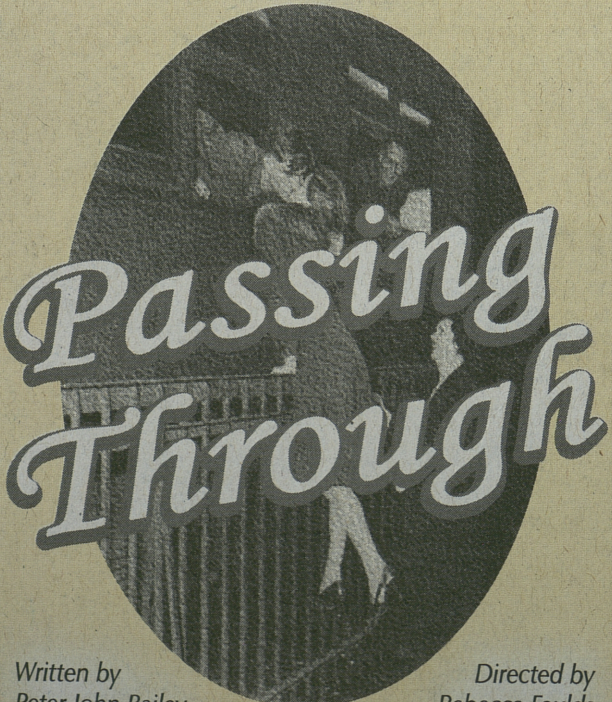
But, by offering an inexpensive clinic to people in the Tyler area, they are offering many people dental care that

they would otherwise not be able to receive.

To set up an appointment, call the dental hygiene office at (903) 510-2342. A student will then contact a possible patient

and give them an appointment time. The cost of the dental clinic is a one-time fee of \$10. Patients are seen Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Directed by
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Photo by Ryan Chriss

PLAYING THE PART Two actors practice the play "Passing Through" on Sept. 30 in Jean Browne Theatre located in Wise Cultural Arts Center.

"It's a story about two people who share the same spirit dealing with the war within them and overcoming it."

— Becky Faulds

'Passing Through' Director, Speech and Theatre Instructor

TJC presents: 'Passing Through'

By Chelsea Clinton
Staff Writer

This theatre season is character driven with themes of family and love. All of the plays that have been chosen for the 2008-2009 season encompass the American Tapestry and showcasing the American life.

"Passing Through" by Peter John Bailey is about a woman named Sarah Carson, a widow from WWII, who contemplates selling her late husband's dry goods store and following her dream of becoming a novelist when she meets Walter Dobbins, a much younger soldier passing through the town of Catesville, Kansas. Though there is a fairly decent age difference, Sarah and Walter know immediately they are kindred spirits. Their love grows quickly and spontaneously.

"The show is set against one of the turning points in American history," Becky Faulds, director and Speech and Theatre instructor, said.

"I want the actors to paint the picture — to be the vehicle. We will be using only a few props," Faulds said. "The two lead characters will both be played by freshmen."

"Sarah Carson is a challenge because she is quite subtle yet strong to the core. I personally

am not a very subtle person, and it is a challenge to bring that out," Allison Pharr, who will be playing Sarah Carson, said.

"The text is simple, yet unique. There is a lot of emotion behind the text, and you have to be willing to dig deeper," Jake Smith, who plays the soldier, said.

After being wounded in the war, Walter returns home to Texas and Sarah decides to visit

"The text is simple, yet unique. There is a lot of emotion..."

— Jake Smith

Actor, Plays Walter Dobbins

him. When she arrives, their age and other differences may be too much for Sarah to handle anymore.

"It is a story about two people who share the same spirit dealing with the war within them and overcoming it," Faulds said.

"Passing Through" will run Oct. 8-12 in the Jean Browne Theatre located in the Wise Cultural Arts Center. Tickets are on sale now for \$5. For reservations call, (903) 510-2212.

[arts&entertainment]

Art students showcase their skills at East Texas State Fair

By Shela Burgess
Staff Writer

Amidst the oohs and ahs of excited fair go-ers and future artists, the local art scene gets in on the old southern tradition of the annual fair with the arts and crafts exhibit at the East Texas State Fair.

Soft yells of "Daddy look" and "That's awesome" came from the small groups of families walking around the stuffy building in hot mid-day.

The fair is almost art itself with blinding neon lights, bright colors and a whirlwind rush of sounds and smells. People come out to experience this because it is a feeling they just cannot get anywhere else.

The fair comes every year and most East Texans know that means rides, games, greasy food and good times. However, the fair is also a great opportunity for local artists to show off their talents.

East Texans shared in the community tradition of canned pickles and crochet along with TJC faculty and student submissions.

In a glass case with a red second place ribbon attached to it, a hand-sculpted extured clay jar with a dotted glaze around the sides was displayed by student Brandon Scott.

"I wanted to represent ceramics for Tyler," Scott said. "I wanted to be involved in the community and I knew the community goes to the fair. I wanted to make my artwork known."

Another student submission of Joan Iverson stood near her current ceramics teacher Jake Allee's second place vase.

"It gives you exposure and supports your community. I learned that from Jake Allee," Iverson said.

Joan said she began working with 3-D mediums through woodcarving, and weaving and then moved on to ceramics.

Cookie Young a spokesperson for the East Texas State Fair said small prizes were even given for first and second

place pieces.

There are divisions for children, pre-teens, teens and adults, in categories from art and photographs to stamp collections, canned goods and quilts.

There are even divisions for people with special needs to submit their crafts and art to be displayed for the community.

In this hot, stuffy building, people still came out to appreciate the talents of local collectors, quilters and hobbyists taking advantage of their opportunity to display their work.

"Look," said a fair go-er to his excited daughter. "Maybe you'll be an artist one day?"



Photos by Shela Burgess

TOP: Young artists exhibited their talents for their division at the East Texas State Fair. **BOTTOM:** Quilts by local East Texans were displayed as a part of the Arts and Crafts exhibition for the East Texas State Fair.

New degree plan gives theater students more options

by Dennis Gonsoulin
Staff Writer

chair of the Speech and Theater department said.

To come up with a degree plan, the faculty looked at the course requirements for the musical theater programs at other junior colleges and four-year institutions in neighboring areas, including Oklahoma, Louisiana and the rest of Texas. The result was a combination of music, theater and dance classes, in addition to the required coursework for an Associate of Arts degree at TJC.

"This will prepare them to transfer seamlessly with junior status to a senior institution, and eliminate the need to take extra coursework," Crawford said.

With the new program comes new opportunities for musical theater majors to gain experience and perform. This year the department will produce two musicals instead of just one as in the past. "The Fantasticks" will be performed as a second-stage show in the fall, and "Annie Get Your Gun" as a main-stage production in the spring.

"If you offer a musical theater program, you better put on some musicals. The kids want to

come perform, not just take courses," Crawford said.

Since the decision to implement the new program was announced last spring, there has been a lot of interest and enthusiasm. So far approximately 12 students have declared musical theater as their major, and Dr. Crawford predicts these numbers will easily double or even triple in years to come.

"It's exciting because we're getting students we would have missed out on had they not decided on TJC because of the musical theater program. It's a good asset for the school and the department."

Freshman Courtney Lux is one of the stu-

dents to christen the new program, and is the recipient of the scholarship set aside for a musical theater major.

"I'm loving the program. All my classes are great and it's a good balance between music and theater courses," Lux said. "This program is much smaller than the ones at most universities which will give me more opportunities for experience and less competition for stage time. Hopefully that will give me a leg up when I transfer to a four-year school. My dream is to be on Broadway someday."

For more information on the Associate of Arts in Musical Theater, contact Dr. David Crawford at (903) 510-2678.

"We have always had so many talented kids that wanted to go on to pursue musical theater at a higher level."

— Becky Faulds

Speech and Theater Instructor



Inked Art

Students, local artists share advice, experience with tattoos

By Kamren Thompson
Managing Editor

As she walked nervously into the unfamiliar environment, sophomore Karen Hernandez noticed the overpowering smell of cleaning products and examined the unconventional art adorning the walls. She reviewed all the questions she wanted to ask; excitement and adrenaline swept over her as she approached the tattooed man behind the counter.

Thousands of college students walk into tattoo studios every day and walk out as permanent pieces of art. Tyler Junior College students as well as some of Tyler's most well-known artists reveal their experiences and advice about tattoos.

Paul Masson, owner of Lil Paul's Tattoos in downtown Tyler, has been branding people with ink for about 14 years and said he can't imagine doing anything else.

"Every day is something new. Every tattoo is a challenge, but I work on people like I want them to work on me."

For someone who has never gotten a tattoo, the first question seems to always be, "will it hurt?" Obviously, an individual's pain tolerance differs, but the majority of people said it didn't hurt badly, unless it was on an area of skin close to bone. However, John Manfood of Lil Paul's Tattoos said otherwise.

"I answer this question 200 times a day. The top of the head is the worst," Manfood said. "It's really all the same. Different people believe what different people are told. Because your brother said it hurt when he got it over a bone, it's going to hurt when you get it over a bone. It's all in your head."

While tattoos sometimes get a bad rap for spontaneous decisions made on a whim, many students claimed the exact opposite, saying you have to be mentally prepared to get the tattoo.

Sophomore Ben Huffine said he carried the design in his pocket for months before actually getting the tattoo. He said that when he felt he was ready, he wanted to be able to do it right then. Sophomore Joyle Rosenberg agreed with Huffine.

"You have to build up," Rosenberg said. "If you aren't sure you want one when you walk in, you probably won't get it."

Sophomore Janie Jackson also prepared for her first tattoo — for years actually.

"I had wanted one for like two or three years before I was 18. So I was begging and bugging my mom to death, and she said, 'if you still want it when you turn 18, we will go get one.'" So on my 18th birthday, we skipped school and went over there to get it together,"

"Every day is something new. Every tattoo is a challenge, but I work on people like I want them to work on me."

— Paul Masson
Owner of Lil Paul's Tattoos

Jackson said. "I wasn't nervous, because I had wanted it for such a long time."

While the majority of people said they got their first tattoo at age 18, Paul said people of all ages come to the shop on a regular basis.

"I would say anywhere from 20 to, believe it or not, older people like 60 years old. Everybody is getting them. Really, right now, there isn't an age."

An unusual story behind a tattoo came from sophomore Mary Tarbutton.

"At 15, me and my best friend left our house and it was when the state fair was in town. We met a couple of cute guys that were running one of the rides. We ended up leaving town with them — and the fair," Tarbutton said.

"We lied and told them we were 18 and had fake everything to prove that we were not what we really were. We got to Shreveport and there was a tattoo guy set up there. My friend and I picked the design that we wanted. Mine says 'friends' and hers says 'best.'"

Two of the six tattoos that Tarbutton has, she got when she was young and believed she could "conquer the world," but has since had the two covered, and plans for modifications on another.

Covering tattoos is a viable and common option for 18-year-old spontaneity. Manfood said about half of the work he does is cover-ups and a Kelly's Tattoos artist said they usually get at least one cover-up every day.

Tattoo studios usually have a minimum price for a tattoo. At Lil Paul's Tattoos, the minimum is \$40 to provide the most sanitary conditions.

"It costs about \$35 to provide you with new needles and all the safety equipment to do it. So our shop minimum is \$40," Manfood said. "Other people have a lower shop minimum, but I know it costs 35 bucks to provide a clean tattoo."

Paul recommends that no one try to tattoo without first completing an apprenticeship.

"There are little scratches out there spreading diseases because they are sitting at home tattooing," Paul said. "Doing it at home is really unsanitary. There are a lot of people that come in to cover up scars from trying to do tattoos themselves."

Most studios have apprenticeships available for people

interested in the art.

"The full apprenticeship is pretty crappy but it's the aftermath that you work for," Paul said.

Probably the most well-known apprentice is Yojiro

"Yoji" Harada of the TV show Miami Ink. However, Manfood said a real shop is nothing like the show.

"Shows like Miami Ink and LA Ink... it's a load of crap. That's not what shop life is like at all. It's kind of like an ER nurse watching scrubs. It's nowhere near what's going on," Manfood said. "It's just fake."

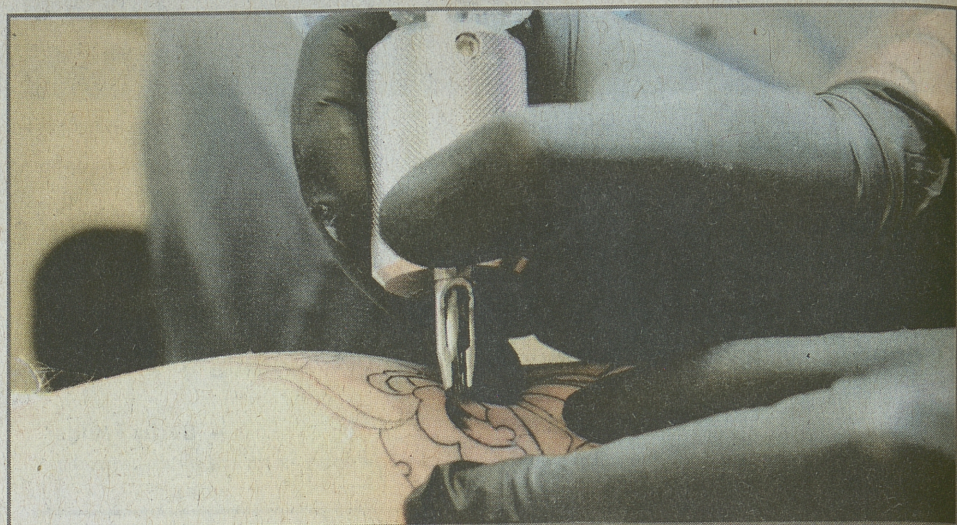
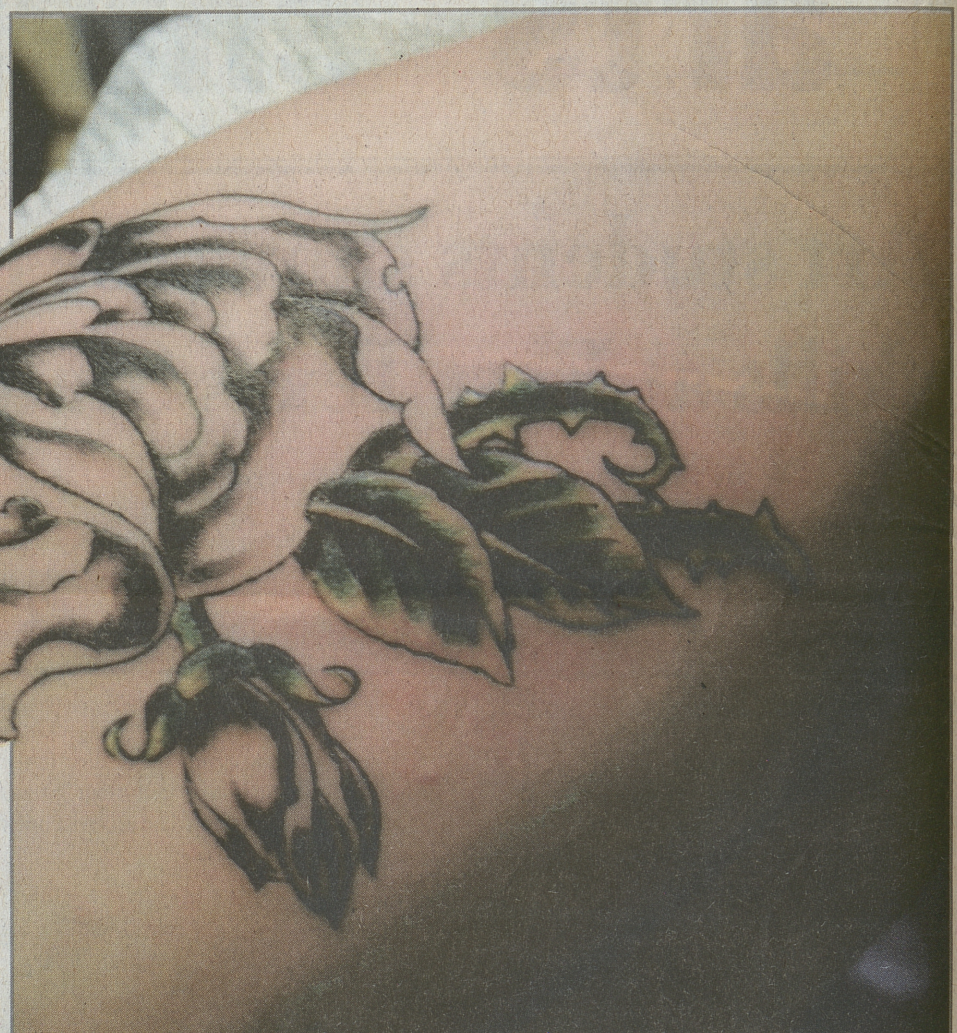


Photo by Kamren Thompson

PERMANENT Paul Masson, owner of Lil Paul's Tattoos, gives his apprentice, Daniel Maldonado, a tattoo on Sept. 19. The top photos show Paul shading with yellow and black ink, using a tattoo gun with seven needles.



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